

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 06307 100851Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 ABF-01 SS-15 A-01 /038 W

-----024323 100858Z /10

P R 100535Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO USGAO HONOLULU HAWAII PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC 4016

INFO AMCONSUL BRISBANE

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS CANBERRA 6307

USGAO FOR DIRECTOR, FEB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AGAO, EMIN, AS

SUBJ: GAO REVIEW: ASSESSMENT OF INCREASING RELIANCE OF US
MANUFACTURERS ON FOREIGN PROCESSED MATERIALS

REF: (A) STATE 191211, (B) CANBERRA 05969, (C) STATE 187764

(ALL NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY HAS HAD FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND RESOURCES REGARDING GAO TEAM VISIT. DEPARTMENT IS ASSUMING ON BASIS REFTEL A TEAM WILL HAVE TWO WORKING DAYS, MONDAY AND TUESDAY, IN CANBERRA, AND IS PREPARING CANBERRA SCHEDULE WHICH WILL INCLUDE MEETING CONVENED BY DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND RESOURCES AND ANOTHER CONVENED BY DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (TWO MAIN BODIES IN NATURAL RESOURCES FIELD), APPOINTMENT AT TREASURY (FOREIGN INVESTMENT REVIEW BOARD), AND SO FORTH.

2. TRADE AND RESOURCES OFFICIAL HAS ALSO REVIEWED LIST OF INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES SET FORTH IN PARA 6 OF REFTEL A AS WELL AS SUGGESTIONS FORWARDED TO EMBASSY BY CONSULATES PERTH AND BRISBANE. THESE
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LARGELY COVER SAME ORGANIZATIONS THAT TRADE AND RESOURCES WOULD HAVE RECOMMENDED.

3. WITH RESPECT TO PERTH VISIT, TRADE AND RESOURCES ADVISES THAT THEY GENERALLY DON'T SCHEDULE VISITING GROUPS FOR PERTH BECAUSE OF DISTANCE AND INCONVENIENT FLIGHT SCHEDULE, BUT THEY AS WELL AS CONSULATE PERTH AND EMBASSY FEEL THAT VISIT TO PERTH BY RICHARD

HERLEY WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE. WESTERN AUSTRALIA IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT WITH RESPECT TO IRON ORE AND BAUXITE, AND STATE GOVERNMENT FOR PAST 20 YEARS HAS TAKEN ACTIVE ROLE IN ENCOURAGING BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC INVESTMENT IN THESE RESOURCES.

4. CONSULATE PERTH RECOMMENDS THAT PRINCIPAL CONTACTS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA BE WITH STATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT WHO HAVE BROAD EXPERIENCE WITH GOVERNMENT LOANS AND GUARANTEES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT. AUSTRALIAN STATES HAVE RECENTLY BEEN GRANTED FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PERMISSION TO SECURE FOREIGN LOANS FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, AND DISCUSSIONS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIAN PLANS IN THIS AREA SHOULD ALSO BE USEFUL. STATE ENERGY COMMISSION (SEC) IS NOW REVIEWING BIDS FOR A SURVEY OF A PIPELINE TO SUPPLY NATURAL GAS TO TWO ALUMINA REFINERIES PLANNED FOR PERTH AREA, AND DISCUSSIONS WITH SEC AS WELL AS CALLS ON LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES OF ALCOA AND REYNOLDS WOULD BE DESIRABLE.

5. UNLESS WORD TO CONTRARY IS RECEIVED, CONSULATE PERTH WILL SCHEDULE HERLEY ALONG ABOVE LINES FOR AUGUST 28 AND 29. PLEASE ADVISE TRAVEL PLANS ASAP SO THAT HOTEL RESERVATIONS CAN BE ADJUSTED ACCORDINGLY.

6. FOR SYDNEY, BRISBANE, MELBOURNE: TRADE AND RESOURCES HAS INDICATED IT WILL BE PROVIDING ALONG WITH CANBERRA SCHEDULE NAMES OF ITS PARTICULAR COMPANY CONTACTS, TO FACILITATE CONSULATE SCHEDULING. WHILE CONSULATES MAY WISH TO GO SLOW IN CASES WHERE UNCLASSIFIED

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SUCH NAMES WOULD BE USEFUL, SUGGEST CONSULATES NOW PROCEED WITH SCHEDULING.

7. REGARDING HOTEL RESERVATIONS, THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE CONFUSION AS RESULT OF TWO SETS OF DATES IN REFTEL A: THOSE IN PARA 2 AND THOSE IN PARA 11. EMBASSY INTERPRETS PARA 2 AS REFERRING TO WORKING DAYS IN EACH CITY AND PARA 11 AS REFERRING TO NIGHTS FOR WHICH HOTEL RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED. GAO REQUESTED TO CONFIRM THIS UNDERSTANDING, AND ALL REPEAT ALL CONSULATES REQUESTED TO ADJUST RESERVATIONS AS REQUIRED AND ADVISE GAO BY SEPTTEL FOLLOWING RECEIPT FROM GAO OF ITS REVISED REQUIREMENTS RESULTING FROM PERTH TRIP.

8. WITH RESPECT TO CANBERRA RESERVATIONS, LAKESIDE IS FULLY BOOKED FOR NIGHT OF 19TH. ACCORDINGLY, RESERVATION HAS BEEN MADE FOR PARK ROYAL FOR NIGHT OF 19TH AND LAKESIDE FOR NIGHTS OF 20TH AND 21ST.
ALSTON

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